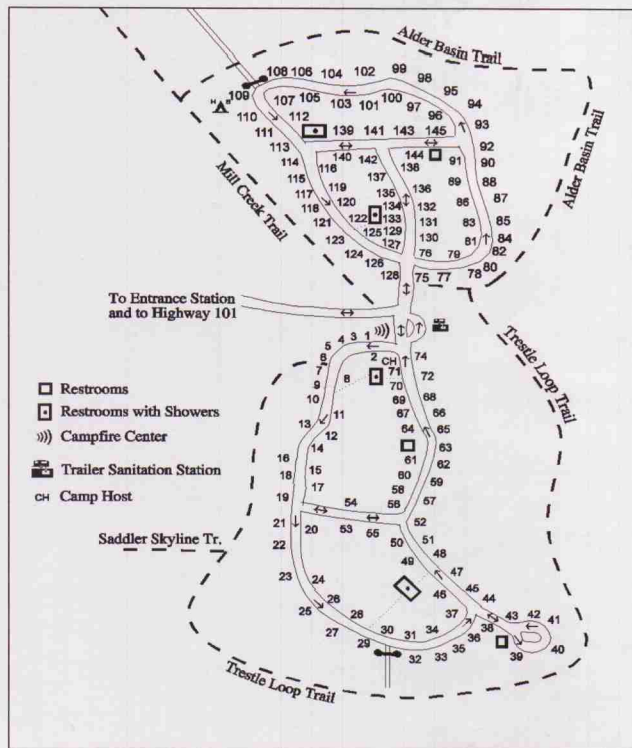
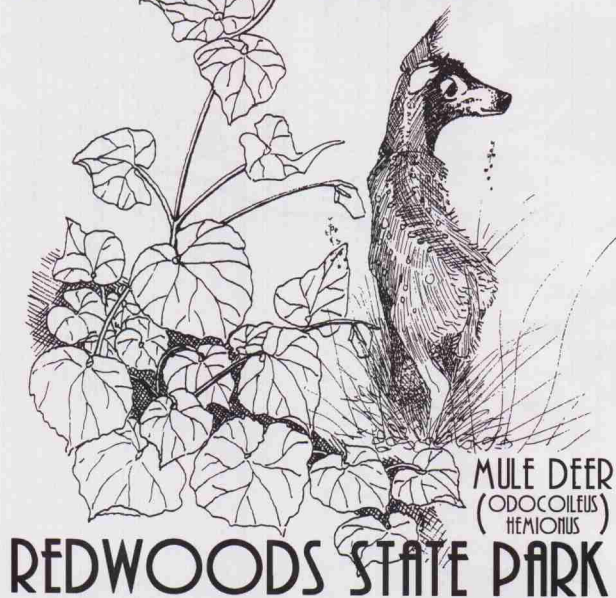


Mill Creek Campground Map



DEL NORTE COAST



Redwood National and State Parks
a World Heritage Site



Park Map & Guide

Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park was one of the first land acquisitions of the California State Park System. Generous gifts from private citizens initiated its establishment and dedication in 1926. Since then the park has grown to almost 7,000 acres including 8 miles of rugged and scenic coastline.

Located in the heart of California's rainforest, the park has an average rainfall of 100 inches. The temperate climate fosters tree and plant growth year round. Due to its higher elevation and the mountains to the west that separate it from the ocean, Mill Creek Campground has a warm and sunny climate compared to Crescent City just 7 miles to the north.

Camping

Hobbs, Wall & Company conducted logging operations here in the 1920's and 1930's. Remnants of these logging operations may be seen on some of the trails. Mill Creek Campground is situated in a lush second-growth forest.

The campground is open year round. Snow and ice may cause winter closures. Over 2/3 of the 145 campsites accommodate vacation trailers and motorhomes. The camp-

ground also offers many walk-in campsites that provide privacy for tent campers. All campsites have a food locker, fire ring and table. Drinking water and restrooms with showers are available in the campground.

Reservations

The park is on reservations from May through September. Reservations may be made through **MISTIX** by phoning 1-800-444-7275. Reservations may be made 8 weeks to 1 day prior to your first night of camping. VISA or Mastercard is accepted. For reservations by mail, complete a Mistix reservation form and send it to:

MISTIX
P.O. Box 9029
Clearwater, FL 34618

Trails

Are you interested in a short loop trail or an all day hike? A challenging trek down to the pounding surf or a quiet, serene stroll through an ancient forest? Perhaps a self-guided nature trail is what you have in mind. Did you bring your mountain bike? Don't worry, the park has a trail for you!

Park Plants

The coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) is the dominant tree in the park. The coast redwood region is a narrow 450-mile strip of land extending from southern Oregon to 150 miles south of San Francisco. The "Redwood Belt," as this region is known, is closely tied to the Pacific Ocean, where thick summer fogs prevail and temperatures are moderate year round. Redwoods, with their massive trunks and shallow root systems, depend on this moist and mild climate.

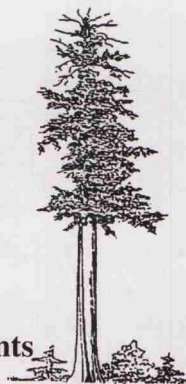
A coast redwood can live to be over 2000 years old and can grow to over 360 feet in height. In sharp contrast to their towering stature, redwoods have many delicate features. The sharp-pointed needles grow on branchlets, forming flat sprays. Their cones are quite small, approximately one-inch long. It would take about 123,000 redwood seeds to equal one pound!

Redwoods have few natural enemies. Tannic acid makes redwood resistant to diseases and insect infestations. Redwood's thick fibrous bark resists fire.

Redwoods, so named for their reddish-colored heartwood, are generally found in association with other tree species, principally Douglas-fir, Sitka spruce, big leaf maple, tanoak and red alder. Nine species of fern decorate the forest as well as salal, oxalis, western azalea, rhododendron, trillium, huckleberry, salmon berry, blackberry and numerous flowering herbs.



Western Azalea
Rhododendron occidentale



Park Animals



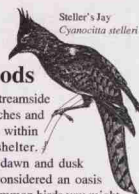
Rabbit, squirrel, raccoon, mink, otter, fox, coyote, deer, mountain lion, bobcat, and bear are just some of the animals you may see in the park. Of course the infamous banana slug, an important and welcome resident in the forest, is readily viewable. Remember, park animals are the residents of the forest...we are their guests. Please treat their home with respect.

Black bear

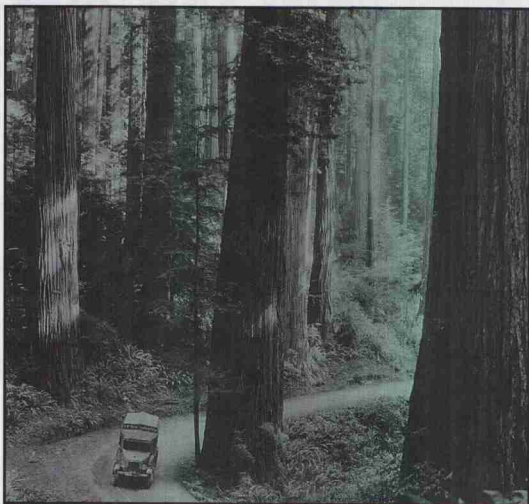
The park is black bear country. Contrary to their name, these small native bears range in color from jet black to cinnamon brown, and may weigh well over 300 pounds. Their shaggy hair and ambling gait tend to disguise the fact that they are well-muscled athletic animals who move quickly when they wish and climb trees with ease. Bears are solitary animal unless attracted by an abundance of food. In winter they become dormant, but do not completely hibernate. A bear's natural diet consists largely of vegetation but they also eat meat when the opportunity arises. Black bears are timid and will move away if they hear or smell people. Unfortunately, bears quickly learn that campgrounds can provide easily obtained food. Their exposure to man then makes them less afraid and occasionally dangerous. Don't add to the problems with bears...keep all your food supplies and equipment locked away. Life for bears is a constant battle to obtain enough food. Like ours, their instinct is to defend what they consider "their" food supply.

Birds of the redwoods

The combination of forest, streamside woodlands, coastal headlands, beaches and ocean provides variety of habitats within which birds can find food and shelter. Watch and listen for murrelets at dawn and dusk throughout the year...the park is considered an oasis for the murrelet. One of the most common birds you might encounter is the Steller's jay. This bright blue bird is commonly spotted near campsites in search of food. Please don't feed or encourage them. Also listen for the "squeaky brakes" bird...the varied thrush.



Steller's Jay
Cyanocitta stelleri



Staff photo

This is a portion of the original Redwood Highway. Today this is part of the Coastal Trail near Damnation Creek. Bicyclists are welcome on the Last Chance section of the Coastal Trail.

Explore Your North Coast Parks



A World Heritage Site

This emblem symbolizes the interdependence of cultural and natural properties: the central square is a form created by man and the circle represents nature, the two being intimately linked. The emblem is round like the world, but at the same time it is a symbol of protection.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization, (UNESCO) encourages policies for safeguarding the environment and society's fragile history. UNESCO also promotes global networking for protection of characteristic ecosystems of the world's natural regions.

Only 165 international resources, such as the Palace of Versailles in France and the Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Australia, have been declared World Heritage Sites. Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park, Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park and Redwood National Park are jointly recognized and are also listed as one of 226 Biosphere Reserves around the world.



Redwood National & State Parks

Experiencing the tranquility of towering redwood groves or the peaceful grazing of elk in a golden prairie will become even more valuable to a growing population in the next century. A century ago, as the idea for creating parks was embraced, the ambitions of many to preserve redwood forests germinated and grew into the redwood parks we appreciate today.

By efficient and cost effective use of combined resources of national and state parks, we are better able to serve the visiting public and protect the natural resource. As an example of the spirit of cooperation, Redwood National and State Park staff and volunteers combined their efforts to produce this most accurate and detailed trail map.

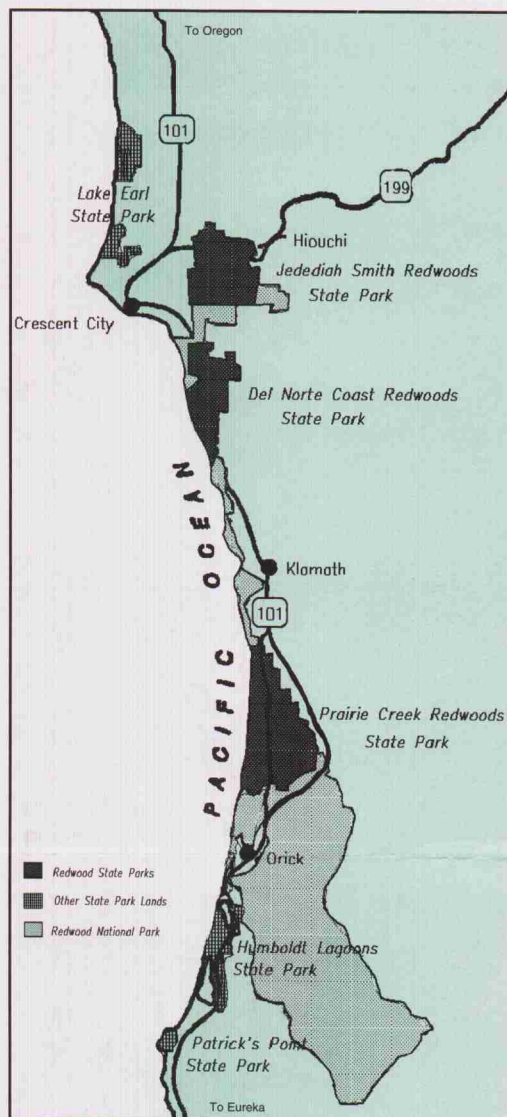
Redwood National and State Parks, together a World Heritage Site and International Biosphere Reserve maximize protection of resources cherished by citizens of many nations. As a visitor, you play an important role in this legacy. You are a temporary visitor to the permanent homes of park wildlife and plants, please be a good guest! Take only pictures, leave only footprints.



Save-the-Redwoods League

As you drive through the park or walk along the many miles of trails, you will see signs naming some of the groves along the way. These groves have been "purchased" by private individuals and organizations through the Save-the-Redwoods League's Memorial Grove Program. The program was started in 1921. Now more than 700 groves have been established in the redwood national and state parks, and more are being established each year.

Donors don't actually own these memorial groves. Save-the-Redwoods League uses their donations to purchase additional redwood lands which they then donate to the parks. If you would like more information about the Memorial Grove Program, contact the Save-the-Redwoods League at 114 Sansome Street, Room 605, San Francisco CA 94104.



Park Rules & Reasons

Pets - Family pets are welcome in the campgrounds and on park roads. Pets must be on a leash at all times and should not be left unattended. Pets are not allowed on any trails because they may introduce disease, threaten park animals and become lost or injured. Pets are not allowed in park buildings or at interpretive programs.

Plants - Plants are beautiful attractions of the park. You are welcome to harvest berries but plants, mushrooms and flowers are protected and removal is not allowed.

Firewood - Over 65 million people visit California State Parks each year. If each person collected their camp firewood, the soil would soon suffer from lack of nutrients. You are welcome to bring your own firewood or purchase it at the park.

Fires - Fires are allowed only in designated fire rings. An oversize ground fire could be disastrous.

Bicycles - Bicycles are welcome on any road where public vehicles are allowed but not on trails unless otherwise designated. Bicyclists under 18 years must wear an approved bike helmet at all times while riding.

Litter - Please keep the park clean. Trash is unsightly and can be a hazard to the park animals. Please use recycle bins found throughout the park.

Archaeological & Geologic Features - All features are protected and disturbing or collecting is not allowed. Leave any historical artifacts you might discover in place and let the park staff know of its whereabouts. An artifact "out-of-place" is historical knowledge lost.

Park Animals - Please do not feed any animals. People food is not a healthy diet for wild animals and they'll frequently starve after visitors leave for the winter. Remember, they may seem tame but these are wild animals. Let's keep them that way!

Peace & Quiet - Some folks drove a long way to get away from it all. Observe the quiet hours of 10 PM to 6 AM. No generators from 8 PM to 10 AM. Please be considerate of fellow campers.

Water - Water for holding tanks is available at the trailer sanitation area. Do not use hose bibs as water hookups. Dish water may be dumped into french drains beneath water faucets. Please conserve water.

Vehicle Operation - Please observe the park campground speed limit of 15 MPH. There are lots of people around and an accident could really spoil a vacation. *Riding in the open back of a truck or pickup is prohibited.* The exception to this new law is only when riders are seat-belted into an approved seat installed in the truck or pickup.



Published by

North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association

The NCRIA is a nonprofit, volunteer organization dedicated to assisting state parks along the northern California coast. Our purpose is to increase public awareness of the rare and natural beauty of the redwood environment. We operate natural history bookstores at Prairie Creek and Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Parks. Bookstore sales, donations and special events generate funding for development of interpretive facilities such as visitor centers, improvement of interpretive programs and equipment, design and construction of exhibits, displays, training opportunities and publication of informative pamphlets and park maps.

The NCRIA welcomes new members and volunteers. Join us and get involved in your state parks.

Basic \$7.50 Supporting \$50 Life \$100.

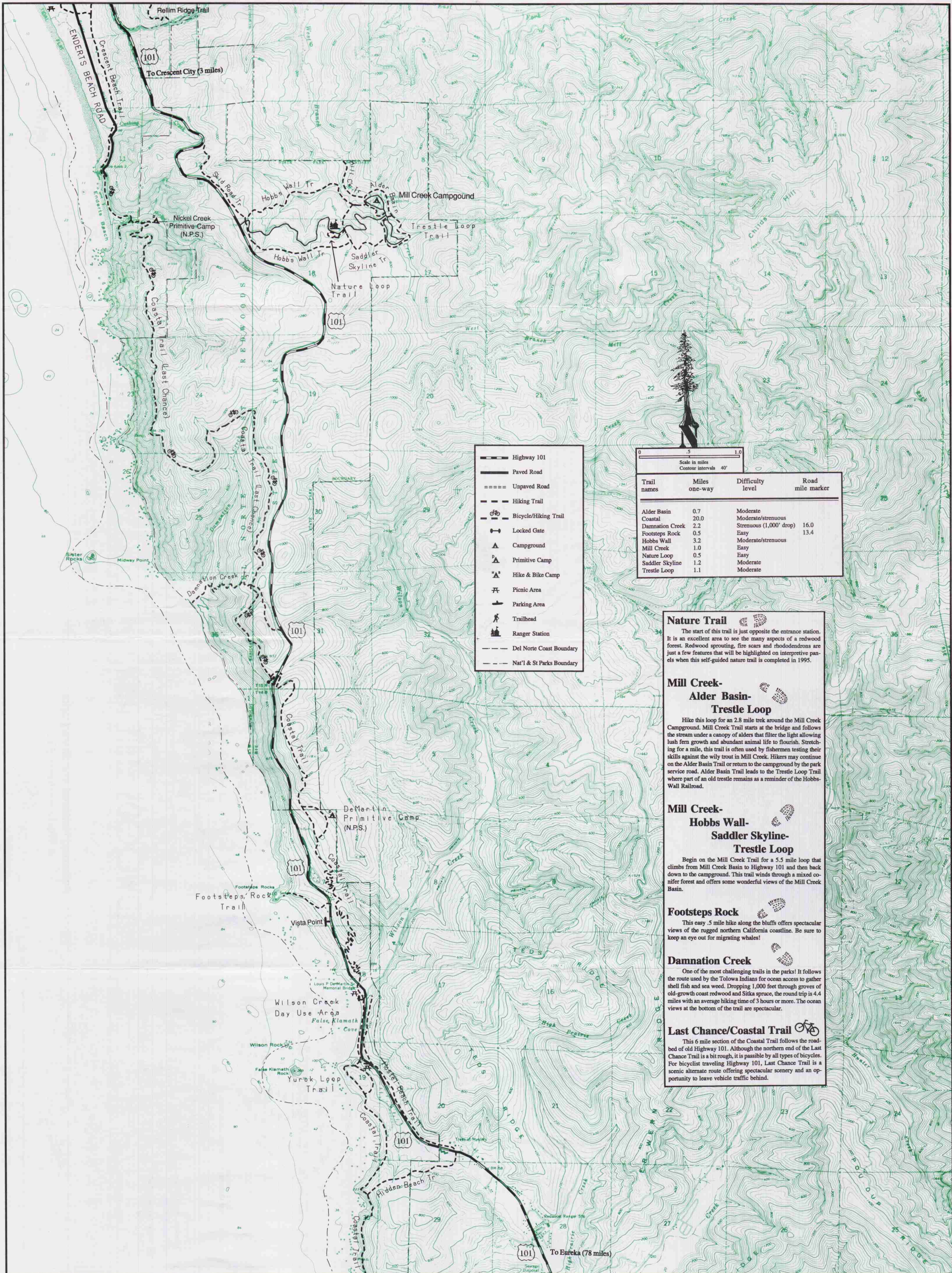
North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association
Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park
Orick CA 95555 (707) 488-2171

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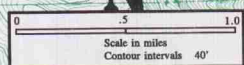
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- Highway 101
- Paved Road
- Unpaved Road
- Hiking Trail
- Bicycle/Hiking Trail
- Locked Gate
- Campground
- Primitive Camp
- Hike & Bike Camp
- Picnic Area
- Parking Area
- Trailhead
- Ranger Station
- Del Norte Coast Boundary
- Nat'l & St Parks Boundary



Trail names	Miles one-way	Difficulty level	Road mile marker
Alder Basin	0.7	Moderate	
Coastal	20.0	Moderate/strenuous	16.0
Damnation Creek	2.2	Strenuous (1,000' drop)	13.4
Footsteps Rock	0.5	Easy	
Hobbs Wall	3.2	Moderate/strenuous	
Mill Creek	1.0	Easy	
Nature Loop	0.5	Easy	
Saddler Skyline	1.2	Moderate	
Trestle Loop	1.1	Moderate	

Nature Trail

The start of this trail is just opposite the entrance station. It is an excellent area to see the many aspects of a redwood forest. Redwood sprouting, fire scars and rhododendrons are just a few features that will be highlighted on interpretive panels when this self-guided nature trail is completed in 1995.

Mill Creek-Alder Basin-Trestle Loop

Hike this loop for an 2.8 mile trek around the Mill Creek Campground. Mill Creek Trail starts at the bridge and follows the stream under a canopy of alders that filter the light allowing lush fern growth and abundant animal life to flourish. Stretching for a mile, this trail is often used by fishermen testing their skills against the wily trout in Mill Creek. Hikers may continue on the Alder Basin Trail or return to the campground by the park service road. Alder Basin Trail leads to the Trestle Loop Trail where part of an old trestle remains as a reminder of the Hobbs-Wall Railroad.

Mill Creek-Hobbs Wall-Saddler Skyline-Trestle Loop

Begin on the Mill Creek Trail for a 5.5 mile loop that climbs from Mill Creek Basin to Highway 101 and then back down to the campground. This trail winds through a mixed conifer forest and offers some wonderful views of the Mill Creek Basin.

Footsteps Rock

This easy .5 mile hike along the bluffs offers spectacular views of the rugged northern California coastline. Be sure to keep an eye out for migrating whales!

Damnation Creek

One of the most challenging trails in the parks! It follows the route used by the Tolowa Indians for ocean access to gather shell fish and sea weed. Dropping 1,000 feet through groves of old-growth coast redwood and Sitka spruce, the round trip is 4.4 miles with an average hiking time of 3 hours or more. The ocean views at the bottom of the trail are spectacular.

Last Chance/Coastal Trail

This 6 mile section of the Coastal Trail follows the road-bed of old Highway 101. Although the northern end of the Last Chance Trail is a bit rough, it is passable by all types of bicycles. For bicyclist traveling Highway 101, Last Chance Trail is a scenic alternate route offering spectacular scenery and an opportunity to leave vehicle traffic behind.